

PERSONAL TAX LIST REDUCED BY \$2,591,000

Only \$9,700 Remains After Sixty-five Citizens Make Their Protests.

STATES SYSTEM IS CONDEMNED BY SAGE

Protests to the Tax Commissioners yesterday by the advance guard of aggrieved citizens resulted in \$2,591,000 of estimated wealth being stricken off the personal tax lists, a reduction of 29.24 per cent. on the appraised figures.

Tax officials said they expected a rush later on—that it was the experience of the office that persons with legitimate protests were always first to appear, while the "dodgers" came in overwhelming numbers as the time limit neared expiration. The same ratio of sworn off taxes if applied to the total of \$37,043,965 would leave a total personal assessment of \$27,452,965.

The present system of imposing taxes was severely criticized by Martin Sax, president of the State Tax Commission, at a meeting of the joint legislative committee of which Senator Mills is chairman. Unless the people did away with the system, he said, real estate values in New York would decline to a point where the city would be unable to meet its obligations.

Ex-Gov. Glynn issued a statement last night in which he declared the State Treasurer's records for the fiscal year just ended placed the responsibility for the direct tax on Gov. Whitman and his colleagues.

TAX PROTESTS BEGIN.

Personal List Is Reduced \$2,591,000 by the Commissioners.

Sixty-five persons against whom a tentative assessed valuation of \$2,600,760 had been placed on their personal property by the Tax Department appeared yesterday before the Tax Commissioners. When the first "swearing off" session was over the sum of \$2,591,000 had been stricken from the rolls, and of the original assessment only \$9,700 remained. The amount held was less than one-tenth of 1 per cent. of the tentative figure. Sixty men went away smiling, having sworn off their entire assessments, and only the remaining five were left to pay any taxes.

These men were among the advance guard of many hundreds, perhaps thousands, of the \$2,600 persons, estates and corporations on the 1916 personal tax list, who feel aggrieved over the sum of the taxing authorities in inflating personal assessments and who will probably seek wholesale reductions or absolute cancellations of the total, personal property assessment, as originally assessed, regarding the stupendous figure of \$37,043,965 and many persons have already indicated their intention of reduction is maintained until November 29, when the swearing off period will expire, there will remain only \$2,600,760 to be taxed.

Nobody in the Tax Department believes, however, that this percentage will be kept up for the reason that the early swayers are a group of persons who have not complied and want to get out of their systems. Again only a comparatively small number of assenters have been left on the rolls, and are going out at the rate of 2,000 or 3,000 a day, and in about a week or two the assessed list will be reduced to the sum that will appear on the Commissioners' records. Yesterday's session was exceedingly tame compared with those that will follow as millions of people begin to resent the idea of being forced to pay millions for taxes.

RAINEY ESTATE PROTESTS.

The most conspicuous assessment examined yesterday was that of the late Raimy, the African explorer and lecturer. Mr. Raimy is in Africa. The attorney for his father's estate applied for an exemption on the ground that Mr. Raimy lives in Mississippi and is therefore a non-resident. The estate, the attorney said, was left to him in Pennsylvania. The assessment was \$100,000.

The hearings were held by President Jackson Purdy, Commissioner John J. Halloran, Frederick H. Shipley, Charles T. White and Collin H. Woodward and Assistant Commissioner Charles F. Adams, Harry W. Huxtable, Valentine J. Hahn, Niles E. Becker and Kolmer.

In many every instance warning was given to the applicants for relief of the excessive nature of the assessment. If no remedy was made under oath.

President Purdy said that the first day of swearing off is never a fair basis on which to venture a guess as to what the future will bring forth.

"The number who appear," he said, "is not sufficient. I think that the majority who come here on the first few days know that they are probably not liable to assessment."

The commissioners never look for the very wealthy taxpayers. They are interested in the early filers and consequently they were not surprised when the assessed valuation of real estate, he said, he could not talk about that. He said, however, that the department was in possession of information regarding persons that it never had before. Concerning the corporation assessments, Mr. Purdy said:

"The methods of assessing corporations have been changed from time to time, always with the intent to obtain more information. The department would furnish an accurate basis for the assessment. Some years ago the relative assessment of domestic corporations in Manhattan was more than

U. OF P. MAN QUITS IN HUFF.

State's Attorney's Stepson Resented Instructor's Attack on Tracton Co. PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 4.—In the midst of the controversy over the dismissal of Fred Scott Nearing by the University of Pennsylvania comes the announcement tonight by James H. R. Cromwell, stepson of E. T. Stotesbury, a trustee of the university, and chairman of the board of directors of the Philadelphia Tracton Company, that he has discontinued his course in economics at Pennsylvania because the instructor declared "the transit company has Philadelphia by the throat and is strangling it."

"I think I did what was right," declared Cromwell tonight. "When you are in a classroom and hear your father indirectly insulted wouldn't you feel justified in acting?"

SPAIN WANTS TO MEDIATE.

Alfonso Hopes World Peace Will Be Signed at Madrid.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. LONDON, Oct. 4.—The Morning Post's correspondent at Madrid attributes the following statement to the Spanish Premier:

"Spain continues to observe neutrality respecting both belligerents and places at the disposal of either group of diplomatic services should they be required. This neutrality will be preserved until the end of the war."

"It is Spain's desire to do everything possible to promote the cause of peace. No other nation has a greater right to exert that role. It is my hope, shared by the whole of the world, that peace will be signed at Madrid, an event which is not improbable."

SECRET REAM WILL MAY BE KNOWN TO-DAY

Capitalist Said to Have Left From \$10,000,000 to \$100,000, Third to Widow.

The will of Norman B. Ream, organizer of the National Biscuit Company and the United States Steel Corporation, which has been kept secret since his death last February, may at last be made public through a conference to-morrow between counsel for the estate and representatives of the State Comptroller, who wishes schedules and a copy of the will in order to impose an inheritance tax. It is believed the will disposes of from \$10,000,000 to \$100,000,000.

The main provisions of the will, however, are reported to be as follows: One-third of the estate goes to Mrs. Caroline Putnam Ream, the widow; the remaining two-thirds are divided into six equal parts, of which each child inherits one part. The will also provides that the children of the estate shall be treated as if they were the children of the testator. The will also provides that the children of the estate shall be treated as if they were the children of the testator.

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ASKS WILSON TO CLOSE CANAL.

Gov. Harding Fears Panama Ditch May Not Be Clear Nov. 1.

PANAMA, Oct. 4.—Lieut. Col. Chester Harding, the engineer in charge of the Panama Canal, has recommended to the Secretary of War the closing of the canal until November 1. Gov. Harding stated that it would be impossible to clear the canal before that date because there was over a million cubic yards in sight which must be removed before a permanent channel is again maintained. The canal can be declared officially closed only by an order from President Wilson.

Captains of the vessels held up called to their companies for instructions. It was said that unless the canal is cleared by November 1, the vessels will be ordered around the Horn or else use the Tehuantepec route.

The steamer Kronland, which is at Colon, has 300 passengers aboard. The Kronland is at Panama. The passengers may be transferred across the isthmus for the purpose of the vessels. The Kronland is at Panama. The passengers may be transferred across the isthmus for the purpose of the vessels.

SLATON BACK IN GEORGIA.

Ex-Governor, Who Commuted Frank's Sentence, Returns Home.

ATLANTA, Oct. 4.—Ex-Governor John M. Slaton, who left Georgia after the outbreak of the recent campaign, returned to Atlanta tonight. He has spent the last three months on the Pacific coast.

When Mr. Slaton stepped from the train at 10 o'clock he was met by several plain clothes policemen and was escorted to his home. He was accompanied by a motor car and a chauffeur.

The general public does not yet know that the ex-governor has returned.

YALE TO TRAIN GUNNERS.

Artillery Battery Will Be Quartered Near the Campus.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Oct. 4.—A call for volunteers in a Yale artillery battery to be composed of 125 students in the graduate and undergraduate departments of the university will be issued this week, according to plans announced tonight. The university will contribute \$20,000 for the construction of new barracks near the campus and until then drill will be held once a week in the Yale baseball cage. The Connecticut National Guard will give \$135,000 for guns and equipment.

Major-General Leonard Wood and President Hadley of Yale are expected to announce this plan. An army officer will be stationed here to drill the men.

U. S. MADE TOOL TO BACK COTTON DEAL

Representative W. S. Howard's Frank Circulated Literature of Growers' Society.

STORY TOLD IN COURT FOR BATTLE CRUISERS

Part of Testimony in Hearing of Promoter Charged With Missing Mails.

John M. Green of Atlanta, Ga., vice-president of the Cotton Growers' Cooperative Society, described before United States Commissioner Houghton yesterday the scheme through which the society is said to have made the Government pay for the printing and the mailing of some of its best advertising matter. According to the witness the society was indebted for this aid to William Schley Howard, Representative from the Fifth district of Georgia, whose frank was used in sending out the advertising matter.

Mr. Green testified as a witness for Philip C. Wadsworth, one of the founders of the society, who was arrested here in August on an indictment handed down by the Federal Grand Jury of Atlanta branding the society's plan for combining the cotton growers of the South as a fraud and charging Wadsworth with using the mails illegally.

Congressman Howard became interested in the cooperative plan, according to Mr. Green, and on July 26, 1912, made a speech in the House of Representatives calling attention to an address delivered by Wadsworth at a meeting of representatives from the cotton growing States in Washington, July 1912. In this way, it is alleged, Congressman Howard had spread upon the governmental record Wadsworth's full speech lauding the Cotton Growers' Cooperative Society plan as the best solution of the difficult problem of successfully marketing the cotton crop of the South.

The speech, Mr. Green said, was accordingly printed in the Government printing office and sent to the society's offices by the mails, and later sent out by the society under the name of Congressman Howard's frank. The pamphlet, according to Assistant United States Attorney Schley, was an excellent advertisement, as it set forth, apparently under Congressional approval, all the details of the scheme for gathering together the cotton planters of the South and helping them to find a market for their crops at a staple price.

The cotton planters and the county superintendents and supervisors were induced to join the society, which, according to the literature would place a concentrated capital of \$10,000,000 at the disposal of planters, and the fastest growers of the South would be placed on them by the cotton manipulators.

The old state of things, the literature of the company asserted, the cotton growers were being robbed of \$10,000,000 a year, but the Wadsworth plan, it declared, would place them on their feet and give them a crown on their heads and the Christmas bells ring and make them kings and priests of property.

Daniels Favors Six Cruisers.

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Naval authorities said today that the General Board will favor provisions for battle cruisers only with the understanding that the navy will not be allowed to build more than two at the next session of Congress.

Secretary Daniels would not disclose the number of submarines provided for in the tentative programme. He gave the impression, however, that he does not believe in the submarine. He said the submarine is a poor thing, and that the navy should not be allowed to build more than two at the next session of Congress.

WILSON STANDS FOR BIG FAST SHIPS

He Favors a Rapid Upbuilding Over a Period of Some Years.

FOR BATTLE CRUISERS

Daniels Authorizes a Statement That the Navy Budget Will Exceed 1914's.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—President Wilson had a conference with Secretary Daniels and Representative Padgett, chairman of the House Committee on Naval Affairs, on the naval programme this morning. It was the President's first discussion of the needs of the navy with Mr. Padgett, and an hour was spent in listening to an expression of the latter's views and those of the Secretary.

The discussion was of a preliminary character and the President's visitors did most of the talking. There are reasons for believing that the conclusions of the President have not yet passed beyond the stage of generalities, and that neither he nor the General Board has decided on the number of ships of each class which should be authorized at the next session of Congress.

One fact was established, however, as a result of the conference, namely, that the President will urge an appropriation for one or more battle cruisers as a part of the next budget. The navy now has no vessel of this type.

Mr. Padgett said that the conference was a very successful one, and that the report made to him by Naval Constructor McBride, who returned from England last week after a study of naval development in this country, had convinced him that fast warships of powerful types were absolutely essential to a well balanced navy.

Daniels Favors Six Cruisers.

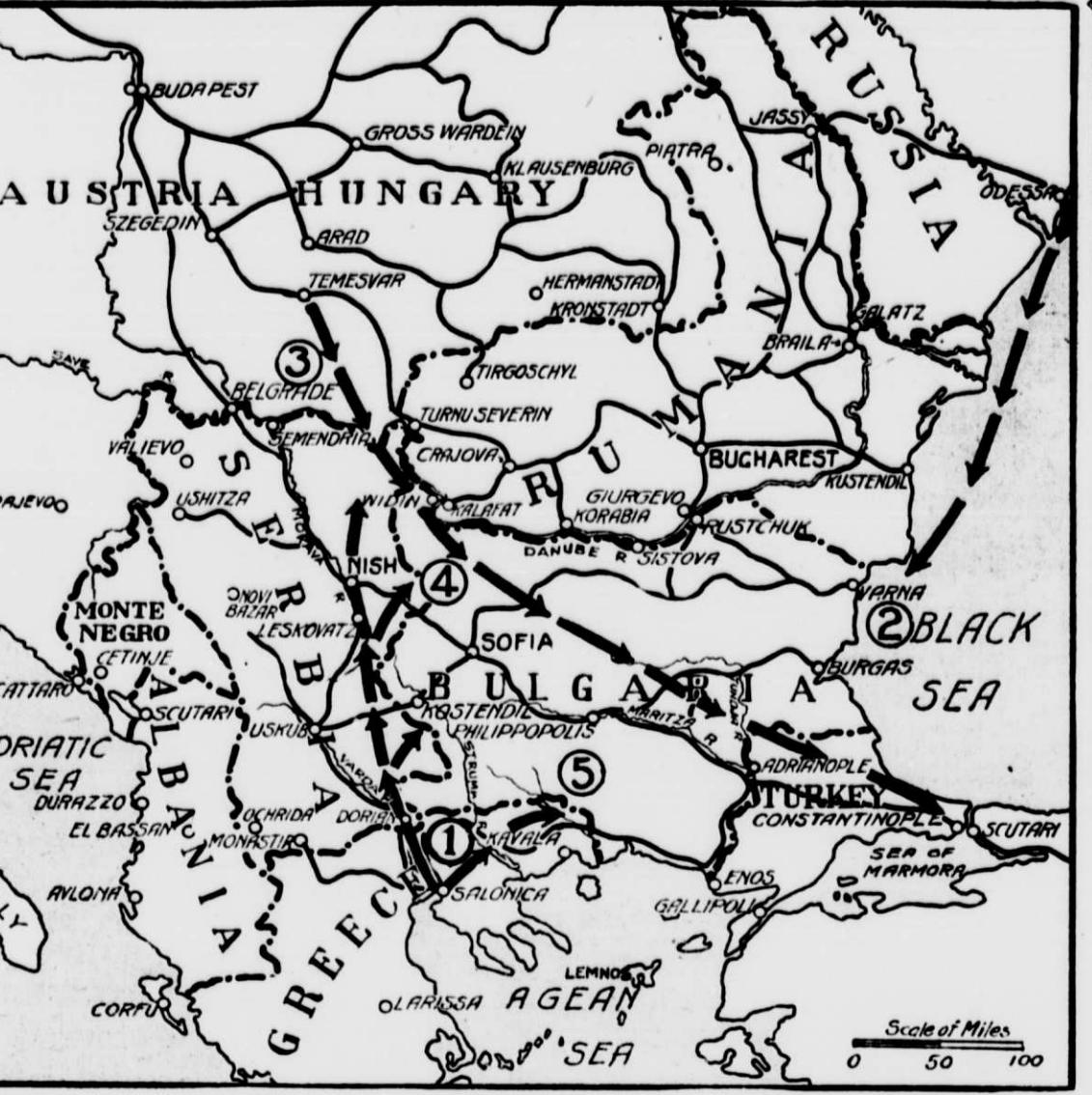
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BULGARIA IGNORES ULTIMATUM; ALLIES LAND TROOPS IN GREECE; GREAT RUSSIAN FLEET OFF VARNA



French Force at Salonica Ready for Advance to Join Serbians

CZAR'S THREAT NOT TO BULGAR PEOPLE

Warning Directed Solely Against Government at Sofia.

250,000 TEUTONS ON BORDER FOR DRIVE

Gen. von Mackensen Reported to Have Left Russian Front.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Oct. 5.—In the absence of official news the London newspapers assume this morning that Bulgaria has ignored the ultimatum sent yesterday by Russia and that war is consequently certain.

"This imposes upon Great Britain," says the Daily Mail, "the necessity of providing for and maintaining yet another large army."

Further confirmation that the Germans are adding the Bulgarians to their aggressive designs is contained in a late despatch from Athens which says that skilled German mechanics are being sent from Constantinople to Bulgaria.

The same message adds that six German aviators have arrived at Sofia. They are to operate with the Bulgarian flying corps.

Time Limit Has Expired.

It is assumed that the twenty-four hours given to Bulgaria for an answer to the Russian ultimatum have elapsed, although the exact hour at which the ultimatum was delivered is not known here. It is reported that the First Secretary of the Russian Embassy at Sofia, asking for Mr. Savinsky, the Minister, who is ill, handed the note to Premier Radoslawoff at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon, in which case the twenty-four hours expired at about 2 A. M. Monday, New York time.

There are now two real questions here respecting Bulgaria's decision—whether that of the Russian ultimatum was delivered, and whether it was definitely communicated to Russia or allowed to be inferred through silence on Bulgaria's part. The Times says that until it is learned that a breach has actually occurred it may be hoped against hope that the Bulgarian Premier will not let King Ferdinand's hand be second time to consummate a breach which would lead to disaster. It must be owned, however, that there is only the slenderest justification for any hope.

Opinion is equally hopeless at Petrograd, where the Sofia Government is regarded as completely dominated by Germany and Austria. If anything were needed to strengthen the belief that the Bulgarian King and Government are pledged to the Teutons, it would be found in unofficial information to the effect that Bulgaria did not reply to the latest Russian proposals.

Railroad Service Stopped.

The latest direct news from Sofia, sent under date of October 3, is that all passenger traffic to and from Sofia has been stopped by military orders. Apart from this there has been nothing since September 30.

News of the action, if any, taken by the Russian Government in the face of the Bulgarian menace is little more precise. Telegrams and dispatches from Athens have been stopped by military orders. An allied force has been landed at Salonica, but there is nothing official to this effect. That Premier Tzimouzis is formally protesting the refusal of a proposed landing of troops is apparent, but it is assumed that this protest is merely perfunctory and is not intended to prevent such a landing.

The Venizelos newspapers declare that the Entente Powers have given most explicit assurances that there will be no action against Greece, and that the Entente Powers are anxious to see the Balkan situation stabilized, and the calmness with which the landing, whether it has actually occurred or is impending, has been received indicates that the Greek Government and people are not worrying.

LAND AT SALONICA.

Allies Have Army Ready to Advance in Balkans.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Oct. 4.—The Entente Powers have landed troops at Salonica, where they have probably already entrained to join the Serbian army and aid in repelling a German or Bulgarian invasion. An Athens despatch says that the official Government organ announces that allied troops have been made up for the most part of French soldiers.

Two powerful Russian squadrons are lying off Varna, the principal Bulgarian Black Sea port, says a message from Salonica. Extensive military preparations are under way at Varna and at Sebastopol, where transports have been collected. These movements are taken to indicate a Russian attempt to land troops in Bulgaria as soon as the allied forces have reduced the insufficient fortifications.

Field Marshal von Mackensen has been ordered to the Serbian frontier, says a Bucharest despatch, to assume command of the Austro-German forces about to press into Serbia. This news is not based on official news, but a correspondent says it comes from excellent authority.

One hundred thousand German soldiers

REPORTS FROM SEVERAL SOURCES SAY THAT A LARGE FORCE OF ALLIED TROOPS HAS LANDED AT SALONICA (1) OR IS ABOUT TO BE LANDED THERE TO OPPOSE THE AUSTRO-GERMAN ATTACK ON SERBIA. THE ARMED LINES FROM SALONICA INDICATE HOW SUCH A FORCE MIGHT BE DISTRIBUTED, THE MAJOR PART GOING NORTH TO THE SERBIAN FRONTIER AND OTHER FORCES BEING SENT TO THE BULGARIAN FRONTIER (4) IN THE NORTH AND IN THE DISTRICT OF KAVLA.

GERMANS RETAKE POSTS LOST IN ARTOIS DISTRICT

Recapture Important Point From French; Drive British From Hohenzollern Redoubt—Artillery Active in Champagne.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Oct. 4.—The French infantry attacks were continued in Artois today and last night with great energy. Slight gains were made, the most important being at the intersection of five high-ways south of Givenchy, and numerous German counter attacks were repulsed. But in Champagne there was a complete cessation of infantry fighting, although a heavy artillery firing was more numerous than for several days.

The ground won at the five high-ways in Artois had to be relinquished this evening because of a fresh German counter attack, but elsewhere the Germans were kept at bay.

A lively artillery engagement developed in the Vosges near Hartmannsweiler Kopf and at the French positions east of Colleur-Plaine a strong German attack was thrown back.

The night communique was as follows:

In Artois the battle from trench to trench raged during the entire day on the crests to the south of Givenchy. The enemy was able to regain a foot-hold at the intersection of five high-ways captured last night. He was repulsed at all other places in spite of the violence of his repeated counter attacks.

There were artillery engagements of particular fierceness and exchanges between trench guns to the south of the Somme, in the sector of five high-ways, as well as to the north of the Aisne, in the Valley of La Milette, and on the canal from the Aisne to the Marne, as far as the regions of Sappignies and Reims.

At enemy aeroplane was brought down into our lines. The two officers who occupied the machine were made prisoners.

In Champagne the enemy again directed a fire of asphyxiating bombs on our positions and on our rear lines. Our artillery replied to this action very energetically.

On the eastern borders of the Artois front, our heavy batteries fought with the fire of five high-ways, and the march from Baunoy to Apremont.

In the Vosges we repulsed after a lively combat an enemy attack against our posts to the east of Colleur-Plaine. There was a very violent bombardment by both sides at Hartmannsweiler Kopf.

The afternoon communique was as follows:

We have continued to make progress to the north of Arras in the forest of Givenchy and at Hill No. 119. Here we occupied the crossroads of five high-ways.

There has been almost continuous fighting with hand grenades and bombs, accompanied by brilliant fighting from each side in the vicinity of Quenevillers and of Neuville.

In the Champagne district there has been artillery fighting in the vicinity of the Navarin farm. Yesterday evening two counter attacks on the part of the enemy to the north of Mesnil were repulsed.

The night passed quietly on the remainder of the front.

One of our air squadrons has thrown

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AMERICANS DIE IN BATTLE FOR FRANCE

Thirteen Reported Missing Are Believed to Have Been Killed.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PANAMA, Oct. 4.—The recent Champagne fighting between the Americans, all in the Foreign Legion, gave their lives for France. The latest lists brought by the French press show thirteen missing and are believed to have been killed.

They are:

Edmund C. Gent of New York, a David King of Providence, Frank Musgrave of New Orleans, and Alvin Seeger of New York, a former Harvard man who had a prominent career as a graduate of the University of Chicago.

They are:

Paul Pavlovsky of Madison, Conn.; Lieut. Sweeney, who was at West Point; Jack Casey, a New York artist; Fred Zink of New York; and Lieut. Frederick Capdeville, Bob Scanlon, the negro pugilist; Elroy Nelson of Milwaukee; Robert Southerland of New York; David King of Providence, Frank Musgrave of New Orleans, and Alvin Seeger of New York, a former Harvard man who had a prominent career as a graduate of the University of Chicago.

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FEAR IN CUBA OVER DR. BOBO.

Deposed President of Haiti and Followers at Guantanamo.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

HAVANA, Oct. 4.—Dr. Bobo, the deposed President of Haiti, who has been at Santiago de Cuba, has gone to Guantanamo to meet his compatriots, many of whom have landed there clandestinely.

The Guantanamo newspapers are urging the Government to increase precautions against a negro uprising.

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